



Licensing Executives Society – Arab Countries

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Google Expands Its Patent Search Engine to 11 More Countries to Aid Budding Inventors

California – USA, Google is expanding its Google Patents service to 11 more countries, which it says will make it easier for inventors in those countries to determine whether their invention already has been



made without having to deal with local patent offices. Google Patents was first launched in the US in 2006. The platform was expanded to cover the European Patent Office in 2012, followed by the World Intellectual Property Organization and the offices of Germany, Canada, and China. Patent holders trying to protect their next invention benefit by gaining more certainty their patents will not be invalidated later because of prior art that was not found during examination, according to a Google blog post. The new Google Patents expansion is the biggest to date. The platform can now be used to search for patents in the UK, Japan, South Korea, France, Spain, Belgium, Russia, Finland, Netherlands, Denmark, and Luxembourg. Users will be able to search through patents both in English and in a patent's native language using Google Translate.

Source:

Source: From the article of the same title. Digital Trends (08/31/16) de Looper, Christian.

Held under the Patronage of Kenya's President in the presence of United Nations Secretary-General at UNCTAD14:

Abu-Ghazaleh Underlines the Necessity of 'Internet Economy' Agreements



NAIROBI- Under the Patronage of Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta in the presence of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the participation of HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chairman of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), the 14th United Nations Conference on Trade Development (UNCTAD 14) concluded its activities in Nairobi with a special focus on achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and facilitating trade in services through the Internet.

The conference, UNCTAD 14, hosted by the Kenyan Government at Kenyatta International

Convention Centre in Nairobi, is considered a public platform for discussion on international policy and sustainable development in developing countries, bringing many high-level business leaders, policymakers, and experts from public, private and civil society sectors.

Speaking during the "Facilitating Trade in Services" session, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh stressed that "My estimate of the dominance of trade in services represents 50 percent of international trade and 70 percent of the GDP of countries, in comparison to the 1980s where it represented 30 percent of international trade and 70 percent of the GDP of countries."

He added, “In 2040, it will represent 70 percent of both.”

Due to the rapid development in the information technology and communication, labeled by Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh as a Tsunami and what could the Internet do in one second, he stressed on the necessity of keeping up with this global evolution in the field of trade, economy and to be implemented through “Internet Economy” agreements.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh who also participated in his capacity as co-chair of the Digital Technologies for Sustainable Urbanization Network (Network Eleven), and Chair of the Honorary Council of Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization pointed out that Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) is the Number 1 company in the world in the field of Intellectual Property protection because it decided to work using information technology and communication.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh who is a member of the WTO Expert Panel for Defining the future of trade gave his recommendations to UNCTAD to establish a multi-stakeholders “Trade in Services on the Internet Advisory Board.”

He tackled the elements that could facilitate trade in services and what can be done in the WTO and regional trade agreement to facilitate

trade in services saying: “The WTO was created in an Internet –free world and no one anticipated the tsunami of the ICT revolution.”

UN-HABITAT, the United Nations organization responsible for human settlements and TAG-Org signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to carry forward the “Network Eleven” Initiative which was launched last year under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11): to build by 2030 ‘inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable urban settlements and cities’.

It is worth noting that Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh presented a report entitled “WTO at the Crossroads: A Report on the Imperative of a WTO Reform Agenda,” to the World Trade Organization. The report makes a number of recommendations that would improve the WTO’s collaboration with the private sector, and places greater emphasis on public outreach.

During the conference, several key subjects were discussed including the necessity to support tourism as the engine for total growth and sustainability in Africa and the need to overcome challenges in terms of employment, poverty and ability to compete in the agricultural field and productivity for a better future.

LES (USA & Canada) Searches for CEO

The Licensing Executives Society, USA & Canada is seeking an experienced IP professional for its new CEO position. Candidates must have a minimum of 10 years experience with technology transfer, and progressively increasing roles in IP management/licensing. Experience in organizational management and administration is strongly preferred. Deadline to submit a resume is October 1, 2016. Qualified candidates may submit online at: careers.lesusacanada.org/jobs/8356444/chief-executive-officer/



Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, UNDP and Abu-Ghazaleh Launch a Study on the Indirect Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis on the Jordanian Economy



AMMAN - The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation launched a study on the “Indirect Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis on the Jordanian Economy” funded by the United Nations Development Programme UNDP, and prepared by Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. Consulting (Tag-Consult).

The results of the study were presented during the launch, which included the analysis of the indirect impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Jordan since 2011 until present, and the total indirect economic impact of the crisis on the Jordanian economy for the years 2014 and 2015 - that amounted to almost 5.78 billion US dollars in costs.

The study also showed that the rate of increase between 2014 and 2015 was around 38% – and through application of this percentage for the year 2013 (negatively) and for the year 2016 (positively). The total impact for the period from 2013 to 2016 is approximately 12.37 billion dollars.

HE Engineer Imad N. Fakhouri, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation stated that the timing of the study is very significant as it coincides with the UN General Assembly meetings and the Conference related to displacement, so it will be one of the tools which Jordan will be armed with to demand international support.

At the same time, the Minister urged the international Community to compensate Jordan for the hardships it endures on behalf of the international community.

He underlines the significance of this study in calculating the indirect expenses endured by the Government because of the crisis indicating that the Government is scientifically and statistically attempting and in partnership with UN organizations and international agencies to document the international needs, the needs of the hosting communities and the Treasury to ask for support to alleviate the effect of the crisis that might go on and on.

Fakhouri said that the Government is working relentlessly on developing its response plans to the Syrian Crisis to be presented to the international community.

HE Mr. Edward Kollon, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator indicated: “Since the start of the crisis, UNDP advocated the need to addressing Jordanian host communities, in addition to refugees in the country. UNDP launched in 2012 a multi-donor programme to support host communities and refugees in Jordan focusing on the national and northern governorates of Irbid, Mafraq and Zarqa, with an inter-disciplinary package of support focusing on strengthening livelihoods and municipal services delivery.

The programme, totaling more than USD 70m and supporting more than 3 m residents, was successful in fostering social cohesion while innovating for results.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh indicated, “This study includes all the indirect impacts of Syrian Refugees on the Jordanian economy.” He pointed out, “According to the Geneva Declaration in 2008, the indirect costs refer to lost resources and opportunities resulting from armed violence– and this requires compensation from people and institutions.”

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh said, “This study does not include the impact of direct costs that are usually of interest to donor countries, although impact of the indirect costs is as equally important.” He added, “The study also does not include the impact of Social Security and the economic effects that result from it.”

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